

Alexander Fraser

1913

**"Steady
and
Sure"**

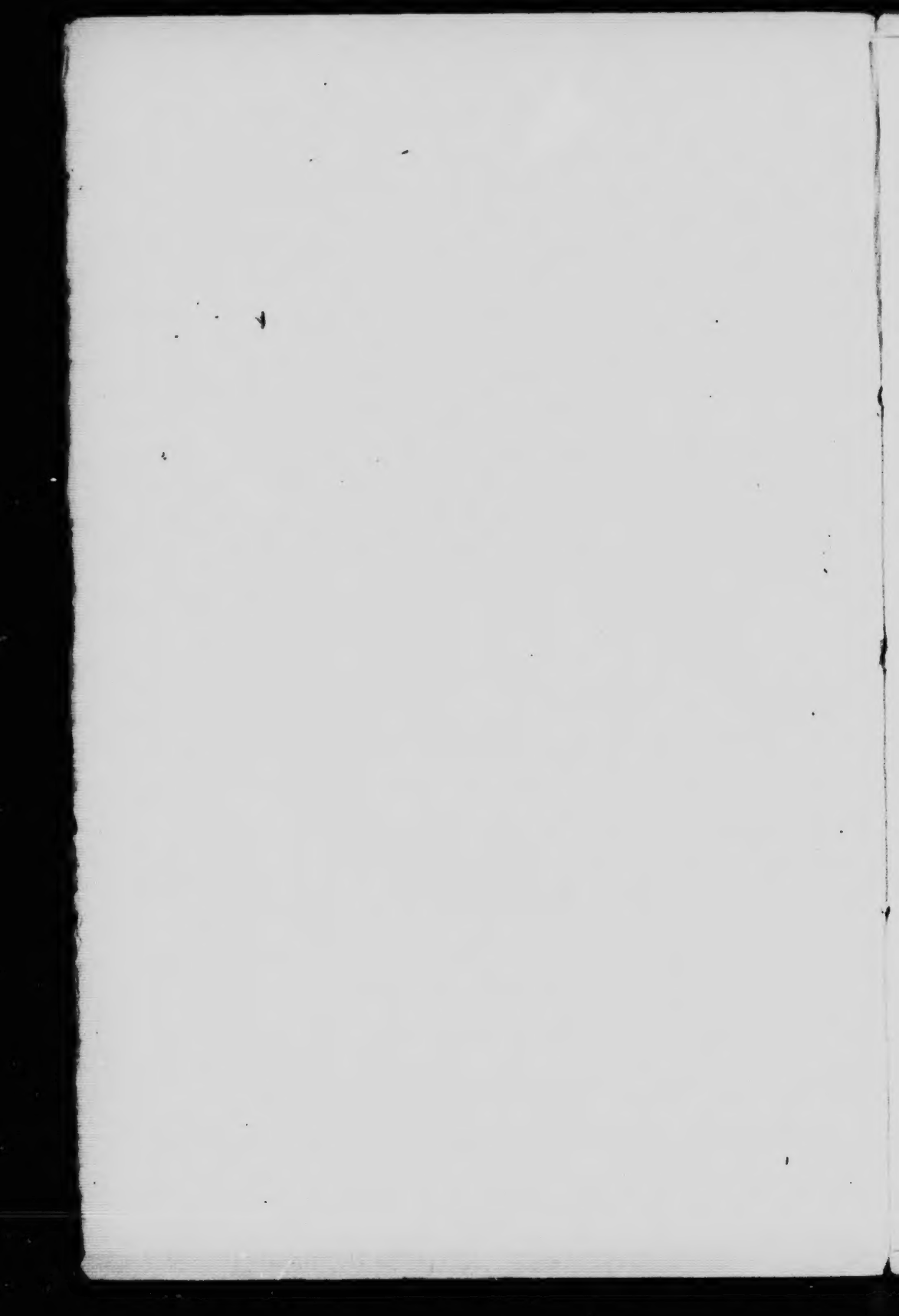
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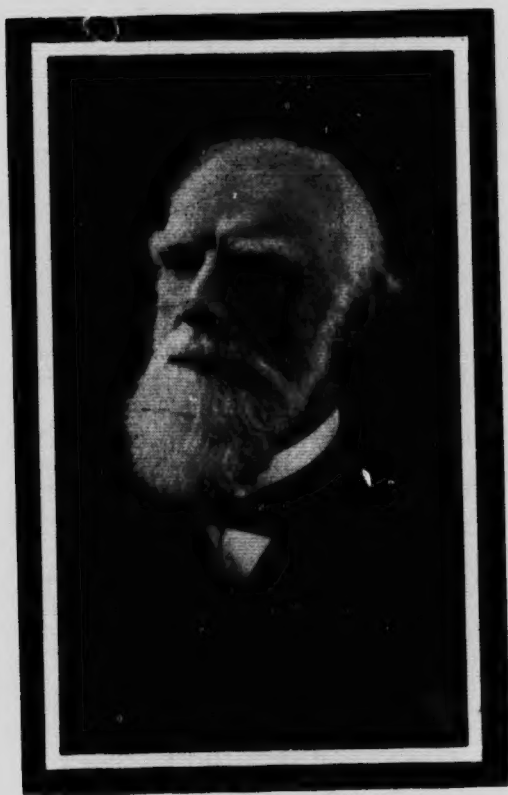
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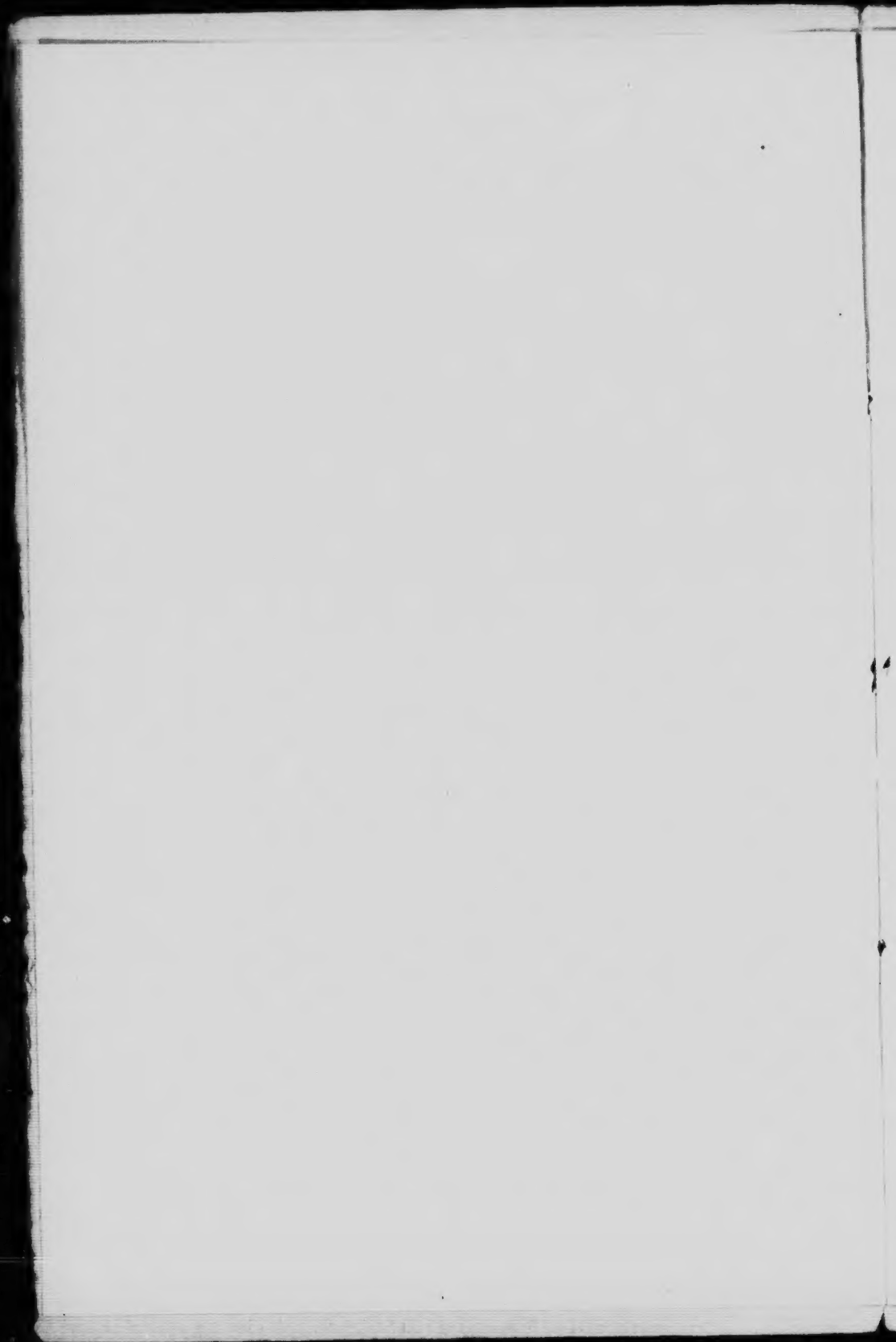
ONTARIO

Last Words to Western Canada
of the late
Right Honorable Lord Strathcona





The late Right Hon. Lord Strathcona
and Mount Royal



25 CROSVENOR SQUARE W

London, 13th December 1913.

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

With reference to your letter of the 21st August and mine in reply of the 10th October, I am enclosing to you herewith the little contribution you suggested for the Christmas Number of the "Western Home Monthly".

I am sorry that this is somewhat late in being sent, but circumstances have been such with me latterly that I have been unable to give it earlier attention, and I hope it may still be in time for your purpose.

That the Western Home Monthly may go on increasing in the beneficial influence it exerts and the welcome it receives in the homes of thousands throughout the Western Provinces, is my earnest hope and belief; and wishing you a very Happy Christmas,

Believe me,
Dear Mr. Mitchell,
Most truly yours,

Mathewson

J. T. Mitchell Esquire,
Editor
"Western Home Monthly",
Winnipeg,
Canada.



The Editor has again asked me to send a New Year's Greeting to the Western Home Monthly, and I have much pleasure in acceding to his request. At the same time messages at this season of the year must always have a strong family likeness, and I do not know that very much can be added to what I stated in 1912. At any rate, however, Western Canada is to be heartily congratulated on the bountiful harvest with which it has been favored, and on the prosperity which has followed in its train. It is gratifying to know that the crops exceed those of all previous years, and that Canada is year by year justifying the prediction of the eighties, when the Canadian Pacific Railway was in course of construction, that her fields and prairies would before long make the Dominion the Granary of the World.

Year by year the area under cultivation increases, considerable additions are made to the number of homestead entries, and sales are reported of large acreages of land in

favorable positions. Immigration returns show regular expansion, railway construction is proceeding rapidly, and places that a few years ago were villages or small towns are now large cities. The manufacturing industry is also extending, and there seems to be employment in one form and another for all the desirable people who make their way to the Land of Promise.

This is the bright side of the picture. There is always another side, the possibility of which must be borne in mind. There may be bad seasons before us, and times of depression, and we know very well that for a little while there has been financial stringency in almost every part of the country—indeed of the World. But this financial stringency does not arise because Canada is doing badly, but because of her prosperity. Prosperity creates a demand for money, and the comparative scarcity has arisen from the fact that so many countries in the world have been prospering and going ahead, and needing capital both for development purposes and for industrial expansion of all kinds.

In my judgment Canada is being built up on a sure foundation by a loyal and patriotic population. Her trade and commerce are likely to increase by rapid strides. The time is coming when the Railways will be more than fully occupied in moving the products of the

If I remember aright in my last year's message I suggested that the motto of Canada and all Canadians should be "Steady and Sure." They must be careful not to endeavor to advance too quickly, or to undertake more than they are able to carry out. They must bear in mind that in order to do proper justice to the great heritage they possess they must of necessity rely upon the help and assistance of others. They must preserve the good reputation they have attained, and maintain the confidence of the financial centres of the World.

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Prathana.

London,
December 13, 1913.

